

ACE Honors Outstanding Cooperators at Institute Banquet

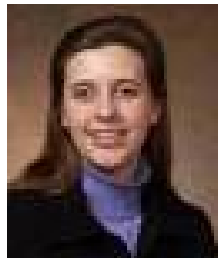
ACE honored six outstanding cooperative educators and cooperative education programs at the 2006 ACE Awards Banquet on August 4 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The event was co-emceed by outgoing ACE Board members, *Carmen Lopez*, director, Medicoop, San Juan, Puerto Rico and *Louis Doering*, vice president, Twin City Co-ops Federal Credit Union, Falcon Heights, MN.



providers who help the elderly and disabled live independently by offering them dependable and cost-effective care while at the same time assuring the workers' living wages and access to benefits.

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATIVE EDUCATION AND TRAINING AWARD

Award recognizes long-term and continuing contributions to cooperative education and leadership within the cooperative movement.



WINNER: Margaret Bau, USDA cooperative development specialist, Stevens Point, WI

As Cooperative Development Specialist with USDA Rural Development for the last six years, Bau has incorporated many new cooperative businesses across Wisconsin. She provides technical assistance statewide to communities interested in organizing new cooperatives. While working to make individual cooperatives successful, she has also focused on developing and promoting cooperative business models that can be used across the country. To further this goal, she has spoken to diverse groups within Wisconsin and the U.S. and published numerous articles.

One of her many projects, Cooperative Care in Waushara County, WI, was named the 2003 top rural initiative by Wisconsin Rural Partners and one of 15 finalists out of 1000 in the prestigious 2004 Innovations in American Government award by Harvard University. Cooperative Care is a worker-owned home care cooperative of 88 home care

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO ACE BY AN ORGANIZATION AWARD

WINNER: Cooperativa de Seguros de Vida (COSVI) de Puerto Rico, San Juan



For the past two years, COSVI, an insurance company cooperatively owned by Puerto Rican cooperatives, has supported the cost of Spanish-English simultaneous translation for the ACE Institute. The sponsorship of this service has significantly improved the value of the program to Spanish and English speakers alike.

As a result, all Spanish and English speakers and participants in the ACE Institute are able to express their ideas in the language in which they are most comfortable. By helping to overcome the language barrier that separates many people throughout the Americas, COSVI's contribution is strengthening the cooperative movement.

More ACE Awards continued on next page...

WILLIAM HLUSHKO AWARD

Award recognizes the achievements of an outstanding ACE member 35 years or younger.

WINNER: Tom Pierson, education director, Federation of Workplace Democracies, Minneapolis, MN

Pierson is active in organizing worker cooperative conferences and establishing worker cooperative federations. In 2004, this work culminated in the formation of the first U.S. Federation of Worker Cooperatives and Democratic Workplaces.

His introduction to cooperatives came at the Hard Times Café in the Twin Cities where he was exposed to the benefits of a collective work environment. He continued his education about cooperatives by attending the Western Worker Cooperative Conference in Breitenbush, OR in 2001 and the Eastern Conference on Workplace Democracy at the University of Maryland in 2002. Soon after, he became a worker/owner of the Seward Community Cafe in Minneapolis.

Along with others, he organized the first Midwest Worker Cooperative Conference in April 2003. Inspired by that cooperative experience, Pierson paid his own way as a delegate to the fall 2003 conference in Oslo, Norway of the international worker co-op federation – CICOPA.

Pierson spearheaded the development of the Federation of Workplace Democracies in Minnesota, which has built connections between unions, universities and community developers throughout the state.



Tom Pierson, (second from left) accepts William Hlushko Award from ACE Board member Cathy Statz, (third from left). Statz is education director of the Wisconsin Farmers Union in Chippewa Falls. Banquet emcees Lopez, (left) and Doering (right) are also pictured.

REGINALD J. CRESSMAN AWARD

Award recognizes an outstanding commitment to staff development as exemplified by long-time cooperator Reginald J. Cressman.



WINNER: Chuck Snyder, president, NCB, Washington, DC

NCB, a federally chartered, cooperatively owned financial institution serving cooperative and democratically controlled businesses in the United States, created the Professional Development Program to help new employees understand NCB's cooperative nature.

Guided by individual learning plans and working closely with a mentor, new employees in the early stages of their careers spend 12-months rotating through several areas within the NCB Family of Companies. They learn core financial and banking concepts with an emphasis on cooperative lending techniques. In addition, they gain a fundamental knowledge of the varied world of cooperatives and the unique relationship of the co-op bank with its customer members. Not only is the program attracting the best and the brightest employees to NCB, it is also proving to be a valuable employee retention tool.

EDUCATION PROGRAM AWARD

Award recognizes outstanding cooperative education programs.

WINNER: Co-op 101, Mid America Cooperative Council (MACC), Indianapolis, IN

The Co-op 101 program provides an introduction to cooperatives for co-op employees thus helping them to relate better to their customer members. In less than three years, more than 350 new employees in MACC's membership area of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Michigan have taken the Co-op 101 workshop taught by Bob Cohen on behalf of MACC. The popularity of the program has expanded beyond MACC's membership with the course being taught in Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Kentucky.

MACC is a regional, multi-sector cooperative association that seeks to act as a catalyst for bringing co-ops together in new partnerships around innovative educational programs, and efficiently and effectively leverage regional education resources. Under the leadership of Executive Director Rod Kelsay, MACC has brought together agricultural co-ops, farm credit associations, credit unions, rural electric co-ops and others to assess common needs and create new regional educational programs. In addition to Co-op 101, MACC programs include a

CFO conference, board leadership workshops, youth programs and a credit conference. A newsletter keeps members informed of programs and the annual meeting provides an opportunity for members to network and attend educational programs.



Lopez (left) and Doering (right) join ACE Board Member Anne Reynolds (second from left), in presenting the ACE Education Program Award to Robert Cohen (third from left), education trainer; and Rod Kelsay (fourth from left), executive director; Mid America Cooperative Council.

PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTION BY AN ACE MEMBER AWARD

Award recognizes work that advances the stature of cooperative education and training.



WINNER: James Montalvo Laracuent, sales manager, Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico, San Juan

During his three years on the ACE Board of Directors, James Montalvo worked to improve the organization's public image and enhance its value to members. As a result, ACE membership has increased and the stature of the organization has grown among cooperatives and cooperative organizations.

Until he was named sales manager earlier this year, Montalvo was manager of the educational services department of Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico where he has worked since 1987. He is a leader in Puerto Rico's cooperative education movement. In 2000, he was part of the Múltiples delegation at the ICA-Americas regional Annual Meeting in Brazil. In 2004, he was general coordinator for the ICA-Americas regional Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico. He was instrumental in organizing the 2006 ACE Institute in Puerto Rico.

Around the Institute

2006 AUCTION

Thanks to all who donated at the ACE silent auction August 4. The auction and tee shirt sales raised more than : Proceeds are used to support at the Institute of students, junior faculty and ACE members from overseas.



INSTITUTE ON THE WEB

PowerPoints and other presentations from the 2006 ACE Institute are now posted on the ACE website: <http://uwcc.wisc.edu/ace/ace.html>.



DANCE FEVER



ACE Board member Cheryl MacArthur executive director; Montana Cooperative Development Center; Patricia Kitson training officer; Jamaica Co-operative Credit Union League; and Deb Conley former executive director; Indiana Cooperative Development Center; dance with others following the ACE Awards Banquet.

Around the Institute (cont.)

COOPERATIVE STUDY TOURS

The 2006 Cooperative Study Tours offered an inspiring look at how cooperatives can save jobs and support communities in areas hard hit by economic dislocation resulting from globalization. The tour visited two newly formed worker cooperatives, a store selling cooperative and locally made goods and a long established consumer cooperative.

The visits to Caribbean Cooperative and Orcoveña Biscuit highlighted a model for government,



Manager of the Co-op de Consumidores Supermarket in Arecibo discusses the cooperative's operations with Institute participants in the store's produce department.



Margaret Bau looks on as Roger Dutilly, general manager, Caribbean Cooperative, talks about the formation of the worker cooperative after Dexter Shoes' subsidiary Pan Am Shoe moved its manufacturing operations from Puerto Rico.

community and cooperative partnerships to support the development of such cooperatives. ACE members Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples and Cooperativa de Seguros de Vida of Puerto Rico took to heart the cooperative principle of cooperation among cooperatives by providing financial support to the worker cooperatives at critical junctions in their development.

The multi-branched consumer cooperative, Co-op de Consumidores, which celebrated its 55th anniversary this year, showed how an established cooperative provides stability to communities in transition.

Worker assembles boots at Caribbean Cooperative factory in Hatillo. The worker cooperative manufactures footwear for postal service and police departments.



Thanks...

to our

COOPERATIVE STUDY TOUR HOSTS


























Caribbean Cooperative

Orcoveña Biscuit

Credicentro-coop

Co-op de Consumidores

Thanks to 2006 ACE Institute Sponsors

<i>Blooming Prairie Foundation</i>		<i>Dairy Farmers of America</i>	
<i>Canadian Co-operative Association</i>		<i>GROWMARK</i>	
<i>CHS</i>		<i>La Coop fédérée</i>	
<i>CHS Foundation</i>		<i>Medicoop</i>	
<i>CoBank</i>		<i>NCB</i>	
<i>Cooperativa de A/C de Abraham Rosa</i>		<i>Nationwide Foundation</i>	
<i>Cooperativa de Seguros de Vida</i>		<i>NCFC Education Foundation</i>	
<i>Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples</i>		<i>Ralph K. Morris Foundation</i>	
<i>Cooperativa de A/C La Puertorriqueña</i>		<i>The Cooperative Foundation</i>	
<i>Cooperativa de A/C de Lares</i>		<i>The Co-operators</i>	
<i>Cooperativa de Farmacias Puertorriqueña</i>		<i>Twin City Co-ops Federal Credit Union</i>	
<i>Cooperative Development Foundation</i>		<i>University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives</i>	
<i>Credicentro-Coop</i>			



Mark your Calendar

Cooperatives and Innovation: INFLUENCING THE SOCIAL ECONOMY

2007 ACE Institute | May 28-June 1 | University of Saskatchewan | Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

The 2007 ACE Institute is a joint conference between the Association of Cooperative Educators, the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) and the International Co-operative Alliance Research Forum. The joint conference will be held in conjunction with the 2007 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences and coincides with the University of Saskatchewan's centennial celebration.

Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, English and French will be available for selected portions of the program.

REGISTRATION: Online registration and payment will be available through the 2007 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences website in early 2007.

AWARDS: The deadline for nominations for ACE Awards is April 27.

LODGING: Lodging options range from on campus student housing to hotels in downtown Saskatoon. Check the 2007 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences website in early 2007 for lodging options. Shuttle transportation will be provided between downtown and the campus.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Visit the ACE website for travel and scholarship information—
<http://uwcc.wisc.edu/ace/ace.htm> .

ACE News



ACE BOARD WELCOMES INCOMING MEMBERS, THANKS OUTGOING MEMBERS

Cheryl MacArthur, executive director, Montana Cooperative Development Center, Great Falls; and Cathy Statz, education director, Wisconsin Farmers Union, Chippewa Falls were elected to the ACE Board of Directors as a result of a vote of the membership in July. They replaced outgoing board members Louis Doering, vice president, Twin City Co-ops Federal Credit Union, Falcon Heights, MN and James Montalvo Laracuente, sales manager, Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico. Colette Lebel, director of cooperative affairs, La Coop fédérée, Montréal, QC was re-elected to the board.

In September, the ACE Board appointed Rizick Rosario Peña, education manager, Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico (Múltiples) and Sylvia Ríos Ortiz, director of the office of cooperative education, Cooperativa Seguros de Vida (COSVI) to fill two vacancies on the board of directors. The vacancies resulted from the resignations of Ken Astrup, general manager, Dakota Plains Cooperative, Valley City, ND and Dr. Carmen Lopez, director, Medicoop, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Astrup resigned from the board due to a job change and Lopez, a medical doctor, resigned after taking on additional responsibilities with a medical professional organization.

A 13-year employee of Múltiples, a property and casualty insurance cooperative, Rosiaro has

an undergraduate degree in cooperatives and a master's degree in technology and information science. With a background in finance and business administration, Ríos has worked for 14 years for COSVI, a life insurance cooperative owned by Puerto Rican cooperatives. Both Rosario and Ríos work closely with the education committees of their cooperatives.

The other ACE Board members are: Roger Herman, educational program development and research officer, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon; Anne Reynolds, assistant director, University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives, Madison; James Wadsworth, program leader, USDA - RBS/Cooperative Service, Washington, D.C and Jorge Sousa, assistant professor, University of Alberta, Edmonton.



ACE BOARD ELECTS OFFICER

The ACE Board elected a new slate officers for 2006-2007:

- Colette Lebel, President
- Roger Herman, Vice President
- James Wadsworth, Secretary

THE ACE BOARD NEEDS YOU!

ACE members are invited to suggest nominees for the upcoming board of directors' election in the summer of 2007. Board members are required to be members in good standing, able to serve three-year terms, actively participate in quarterly board conference calls or meetings, attend the

continued on next page

ACE News (cont.)

annual Institute and accept the responsibilities and obligations of a director. Suggestions should be sent to Nominating Committee Chair: **Cathy Statz**, education director, Wisconsin Farmers Union, 117 West Spring Street, Chippewa Falls, WI, 54729, 715/723-5561; cstaz@wisconsinfarmersunion.com. Other nominating committee members include: **Louis Doering**, vice president, Twin City Co-ops Federal Credit Union, Falcon Heights, MN; **Cheryl**

MacArthur, executive director, Montana Cooperative Development Center, and **Jorge Sousa**, assistant professor, University of Alberta.

The three-year terms of the following board members will expire in 2007: **Anne Reynolds**, assistant director, University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives; **James Wadsworth**, USDA - RBS/ Cooperative Service, and **Rizick Rosario Peña**, education manager, Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico.

New Members

E.M. Scott Bagley

Hayward, WI

Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Caguas
Caguas, PR

Deb Conley

Chad Martin

Sam Cordes

Indiana Cooperative Development Center
Indianapolis, IN

Warren Crossman

Saskatchewan
Co-operative Association
Saskatoon, SK

Jerry Hay

USDA - Rural Development
North Vernon, IN

Leda Morales

Felix Cristia Martinez

Luis Coto

Jerson Harrigan
Confederacion de Cooperativas del Caribe y Centro America
San Juan, COSTA RICA

Saint Fort Chéry Dadaille

Universidad Quiqueyana de Haiti
Puerto Principe, HAITI

Susan Hine

Colorado Cooperative Council
Fort Collins, CO

Lynn Pitman

Brent Hueth
University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives
Madison, WI

Jill Hiron

Seward Co-op Grocery & Deli
Minneapolis, MN

Christina Leighfield

Ohio Cooperative Development Center
Piketon, OH

Pedro Maldonado Arroyo

Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Abraham Rosa
Toa Alta, PR

Mireille Nadeau

Fédération des caisses Desjardins du Qué
Lévis, QC

Lymarie Nieves

Cooperative Ahorro y Crédito La Sagrada Familia
Corozal, PR

Rodolfo Navas Almodo

CENECOOP
San Jose, COSTA RICA

John Chamard

Stephen Dutcher

Sonja Novkovic

Saint Mary's University
Scobey School of Business
Halifax, NS

George Colón Miranda

Gloria Irma Santiago

Eileen Pontelira Irizarri

Rosalía Torres de Monell

Cooperative Ahorro y Crédito La Puertorriquena
San Juan, PR

Grant Schultz

Wisconsin Farmers Union
Chippewa Falls, WI

Danielle Solimka

Co-operatives Secretariat
Ottawa, ON

Herminio Cintrón

Alexis Torrado

Carlos Collazo

Jose Torres, III

Co-op de Farmacias
Puertorriquena
San Juan, PR

Kiran Nigham

North American Students of Cooperation
Ann Arbor, MI

Welcome!

Member News

COOP LEADER AND EDUCATION ADVOCATE ELROY WEBSTER DIES

Nationally recognized cooperative and agricultural leader Elroy Webster died in July after a lengthy illness. Webster, a Minnesota farmer, was at the forefront of the joint venture and merger trend in U.S. agricultural cooperatives. He served as director and former chair of CHS Inc. and predecessor companies. He was instrumental in the formation of the CHS Foundation, one of the foremost supporters of cooperative education in the United States. An ACE member, in 2003 he accepted the ACE Award for Outstanding Contribution to ACE by an Organization on behalf of the CHS Foundation.



JANTZEN TO HALL OF FAME

ACE member **Jean Jantzen** will be inducted into the Cooperative Hall of Fame in May in Washington, DC. Jantzen, retired vice president of CHS Cooperatives, Inver Grove Heights, MN served

on the ACE board of directors. Jantzen was the 2000 recipient of the Reginald J. Cressman Award Recognizing Commitment to Staff Development. Other inductees include long-time credit union advocate David L. Chatfield; former Land O'Lakes Chief Executive Jack E. Gherty; and former governor of the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation Charles B. Gill.

ASTRUP HONORED

Outgoing ACE Board member **Ken Astrup** is the 54th recipient of the Distinguished Alumni award from the Valley City State University Alumni Board of Directors. Astrup currently serves as General Manager for Dakota Plains Cooperative, headquartered in Valley City, ND. Prior to his current job, he was with North Dakota Farmers Union for over 30 years where he served as Director of Cooperative Services.

HUETH NEW DIRECTOR AT UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN CO-OP CENTER

Brent Hueth was recently hired as director of the University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives and associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. Previously, Hueth was associate professor in the Department of Economics at Iowa State University where his research and teaching focused on contracting and coordination in the agricultural sector.



Hueth's background is in industrial organization economics and corporate finance. His recent research projects that focus on cooperative issues include study of cooperative bargaining by farmers and investigation of the relationship between the cost of capital and cooperative economic activity.

CONLEY LEAVES COOP DEVELOPMENT

Deb Conley left the Indiana Cooperative Development Center for a job with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis. Conley was the Center's executive director. The Center currently has an interim director.

CONGRATULATIONS DARCY!

Darcy Mykytyshyn, vice president of Corporate Development, Community Savings, Red Deer, AB won a Young Credit Union People Program (WYCUP) scholarship at the 2006 World Credit



Union Conference in Dublin, Ireland. The WYCUP scholarship was presented to five young credit union leaders from around the world. Mykytyshyn is a former ACE Board member.

MEYER TO NEBRASKA

Tammy Meyer has accepted the presidency of the Nebraska FFA Foundation. She previously served as manager of individual giving for the National FFA Foundation in Indianapolis, IN. Meyer is a former president of ACE.

Foundation News

Ralph K. Morris Foundation
Continuing the Cooperative Legacy



EISCHENS JOINS RKM BOARD; NELSON APPOINTED VICE CHAIR

Curt Eischens, CHS board member and president of the Minnesota Association of Cooperatives, Minneota, MN has joined the board of the Ralph K. Morris Foundation. The new board officers of the foundation are: Chair Chris Morris, Bassford Remele, Minneapolis, MN; Vice Chair William Nelson, president, CHS Foundation and The Cooperative Foundation, Inver Grove Heights, MN; Treasurer David Swanson and Secretary Jayne

Kincade, both of Dorsey & Whitney, Minneapolis, MN.

LYON KEYNOTES LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

2006 Co-op Hall of Fame Inductee Tom Lyon is the keynote speaker for the 3rd Annual Ralph Morris Foundation Cooperative Leadership Symposium.

Lyon is the retired CEO of Cooperative Resources International, Shawano, WI, and a respected cooperative leader and visionary. In 1993, he pioneered the first U.S. holding cooperative as a cutting-edge solution to the ailing cattle industry, and grew this new model into a successful business with global prominence.

The Morris Foundation was formed and funded to honor the late cooperative attorney Ralph Morris and to fund participation by emerging cooperative leaders in education programs and seminars aimed at cooperative businesses. In the past four and a half years, the Foundation has awarded over 100 scholarships to co-op employees and students from around the country to fund part or all of the cost of various training programs.

For more information about the RKM Foundation or the Symposium go to <http://www.ralpbkmmorrisfoundation.org>.

CDF'S MSC FUND AWARDS \$97,870 IN GRANTS FOR SIX COOPERATIVE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



The Mutual Service Cooperative (MSC) Fund of the

Cooperative Development Foundation has awarded \$97,870 in grants to six projects focused on improving rural seniors' access to housing, home care and health care services.

2006 GRANT RECIPIENTS ARE:
CAP Services, Inc, Stevens Point, WI— \$27,830 to support home care co-ops in various stages of business start-up by creating a collection of resources for use in home care co-op development by care givers, community organizers, long-term care advocates, co-op developers and co-op staff.

Minnesota Association of Cooperatives Education Foundation, St. Paul, MN— \$2,200 to allow the Foundation to better serve and educate an increasing number of rural senior housing co-op member/residents through meetings, workshops and newsletters.

Public Hospital Cooperative, Pocatello, ID— \$12,000 to improve patient care by providing training to management and staff of the 13 rural nonprofit hospitals, clinics and long-term care units that are members of the cooperative. This grant will allow PHC's Leadership Committee to continue its training program, which is geared to the needs at each facility.

Rural Community Assistance Corporation, West Sacramento, CA— \$48,000 to assist three rural senior mobile home parks convert to co-op ownership through technical assistance on legal structure, organizing, finance and management operations. Ownership of the land means residents are not susceptible to closure or sales, which usually deprive them of their home investment and force them into higher-cost housing.

Senior Cooperative Foundation, St. Paul, MN— \$5,250 to address education needs of senior rural housing co-op residents, staff

and developers. The education program covers legal, financial and community issues; board of director responsibilities; transfer of responsibility; working with the management company; aging in place; and fair housing laws.

Cooperative Care, Wautoma, WI— \$2,590 to enable four members to attend the second nationwide Worker Cooperative Conference. The conference is a networking opportunity and provides consultations with specialists in finance and law and sessions on skill building, governance, planning, economic development and organizational strategies.

The MSC Fund has awarded more than \$1 million in grants to the co-op community over the last three decades. The Cooperative Development Foundation is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization promoting community, economic and social development through cooperative enterprises.

Worth Noting

NEW ONLINE TUTORIALS COVER KEY COOPERATIVE ELEMENTS

Educating people about agricultural cooperatives just got a little easier. Three online learning modules, developed by the Member Services staff of CHS Inc. and Land O'Lakes, cover the basics of cooperative principles, finance and risk management.

These user-friendly modules can be used as stand-alone sources of basic cooperative information, or as part of a broader educational program. Each tutorial gives an overview of its content, then takes the user through key points, section by section, with a quick review after each and a skills test at the end.

The three modules include:

- 1) **Cooperative Principles and Practices** explains how cooperatives work, the different types of cooperative structures, the concepts of patronage and equity and everyone's responsibilities within the cooperative system.
- 2) **Financial Understanding** covers the basic financial statements used by most agricultural cooperatives and how to read and understand them. The specific documents covered include a statement of operations, balance sheet, statement of cash flow, statement of patron equity and statement of change in financial position.
- 3) **Commodity Price Risk Management** introduces the risks associated with buying and selling commodities, describes how such risks can impact a cooperative's financial standing and examines the basic strategies commonly used to manage those risks.

The modules are available at www.mbrservices.com/Training/tutorials.cfm.

NATIONAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE ON WEB

Presentations and other material from the National Community Investment and CSR Forum, held May 31 – June 2 in Winnipeg, are available on the Canadian Co-operative Association's website at http://www.coopscanada.coop/issues/community_presentations.html. The forum, entitled "Working Together to Make a Difference," brought together representatives from cooperatives, credit unions and community investment organizations from across Canada to explore

opportunities for leadership and collaboration to build stronger communities.

NFU OFFERS INTERNSHIPS

National Farmers Union offers internships in Denver and Washington, DC. For more information, go to: <http://www.nfu.org/about/education/internships/>.

ON CO-OP HONORS CO-OP SPIRIT

The Ontario Co-operative Association honored outstanding contributions to cooperatives and cooperation with their annual Cooperative Spirit Recognition Awards in October.



Award recipients include:

- Co-operative Youth Leadership Spirit Award: Krista Duynisveld, a student at the University of Waterloo
- Co-operative Youth Mentorship Award: Craig Steven of Toronto
- Lifetime Achievement Spirit Award: Denis Bourdeau, Conseil de la coopération de l'Ontario, and John Tregunna, North Wellington Co-operative Services
- Distinguished Co-operator Spirit Award: Raymond Savage, Nipissing-Sudbury Co-operative, and Ontario Natural Food Co-op of Toronto
- Outstanding Contribution to the Ontario Co-operative Association: Sheena Lucas, Credit Union Central of Ontario
- Co-operative Innovator Spirit Award: Robert Fairbairn, Espanola & District Credit Union
- New Co-operative of Distinction: Positive Power Co-operative, Dundas
- Special Award for dedication to co-operatives and credit unions: John M. Harper, the Financial Services Commission of Ontario.

CO-OP IMPACT ENVELOPE STUFFER

A new envelope stuffer based on one of the popular advertisements highlighting the impact of cooperative business on the economy is now available on the National Cooperative Month web site, www.co-opmonth.coop. This new addition to the line of co-op promotions was designed to be used year-around

so cooperatives can celebrate their "cooperativeness" anytime, not just in October.



WASHINGTON, DC RESTAURANT PROMOTES FAMILY FARMERS

Originally conceived by the North Dakota Farmers Union with the intent to promote and enable the American family farmer to capture a greater share of the food dollar, the Agraria Restaurant is a family-farmer owned and sourced restaurant with contemporary American cuisine that emphasizes meat, pasta and seasonal dishes from across the country. For more information, go to www.agrariarestaurant.com/.



USDA AWARDS \$4.3 MILLION FOR COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

USDA awarded \$4.3 million to fund cooperative development centers and related activities in 20 states. The funds will be used to establish and operate centers for cooperative development and assist rural businesses and farmers in developing cooperative business ventures.

Grant recipients are nonprofit corporations, including institutions of higher education, aiming to improve economic conditions in rural areas. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis and can pay for up to 75 percent of the cost of establishing and operating centers for cooperative development. The centers provide rural residents with education and technical assistance to enable them to establish cooperatives, and to market and manage cooperatives. Of the 53 applications received by USDA Rural Development in 2006, 39 were found to be eligible and 20 of those were selected for funding. A list of recipients is available at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/newsroom/2006/RCDGList06.pdf>.

DONNA SEYMOUR NEW DIRECTOR OF CO-OPS SECRETARIAT

Donna Seymour is the new director of the Canadian Co-operatives Secretariat. Seymour joined the Federal Government in 1998, following a career in health care and health promotion in England. She spent five years at Health Canada working in the areas of adult health, chronic disease prevention and healthy communities. She recently completed assignments at Environment Canada and Human Resources and Social Development Canada.



A Celebration of Co-op Art & Craft

In honor of Co-op Month, the online auction will feature quilts, ceramics, paintings, jewelry, woodworking and more from art and craft co-ops around the country. It will bring visibility to the co-ops while it raises funds to support CDF's work to improve lives through cooperative development.

The auction runs online from October 9 to October 31 at www.cdf.coop. Check the online auction catalog at www.cdf.coop throughout September and October for new items and new sponsors.

To donate an item or support the auction as a sponsor, contact CDF at 202-383-5459 or ebailey@cdf.coop.

LOOKING FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS WITH A CO-OP FLAVOR?

Consider the Cooperative Development Foundation's Online Auction

**A CELEBRATION OF CO-OP ART & CRAFT
OCTOBER 9 - 31
WWW.CDF.COOP**





COMMUNICATION INTERN OPPORTUNITY

The Cooperative Communicators Association (CCA) offers two five-month internships for college students. Interns assist with communication activities for CCA and work from remote locations via the Internet. The internships may qualify for college credits.

The internships, which run from January to May 2007, culminate with an all-expense paid trip to participate in the 2007 CCA Institute in Williamsburg, VA., June 2-5. Attendance at the CCA Institute gives students an opportunity to interact with professional communicators and learn more about the field of cooperative communications.

Application deadline is Friday, December 1, 2006. The applications are available via the CCA Web site, www.communicators.coop. To receive application materials and/or further details, contact CCA Internship/Scholarship Chair Harriet Wegmeyer at 202/515-2720 or hwegmeyer@tji.org.

MAHONEY HONORED

Cooperative Development Specialist Rosemary Mahoney, Lovingson, VA, received a National Cooperative Business Association Honored Cooperator Award during NCBA's annual purchasing co-op conference in Chicago.



HOLZ-CLAUSE ASSUMES INTERIM POSITION

Mary Holz-Clause, manager of Iowa State University Extension's value added agriculture program and director of the Agricultural Marketing Resources Center has been appointed interim associate vice president for the ISU extension and interim associate director of cooperative extension.

NEW DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR AT USDA COOPERATIVE SERVICE

Le Ann Oliver is the new deputy administrator for USDA Rural Business – Cooperative Service. She worked for several years in the Small Business Administration and served on the board of directors of a credit union in Washington, DC.

Calendar of Events



Nov. 1–2

Opportunities for Cooperatives: Renewable Energy and Environmental Management, Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, Minneapolis, MN. <http://uwcc.wisc.edu/farmercoops06/index.html>

Nov. 2

Business Association – New Model for Enterprise Growth & Success, Bordentown, NJ. www.bam.rutgers.edu

Nov. 3–5

Connecting the Threads of Cooperative Experience, NASCO (North American Students of Cooperation) Institute, Ann Arbor, MI. <http://www.nasco.coop/programs+%26+services/nasco+institute/index.en.html>

Nov. 13

Cooperative Leadership Symposium, Ralph K. Morris Foundation, LaCrosse, WI. <http://ralphkmorrisfoundation.org>

Nov. 13–15

Marketing the Cooperative Difference, WFC/MAC Annual

Meeting, Lacrosse, WI. <http://www.wfcmac.coop/wm/events/annualmeeting/2005annualmeeting.htm>

Nov. 16–18

Taking Global to Local — The Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation Annual Meeting and Conference, Edmonton, AB. <http://www.canadianworker.coop/>

Nov. 28 – Dec. 1

CHS New Leader Institute, Portland, OR. <http://www.chsinc.com/go.asp?Page=001214243&Template=02&Parent=0&Title=New+Leader+Institute>

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